Sterne Kessler **Goldstein Fox** ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Robert Greene Sterne Edward J. Kessler Jorge A. Goldstein David K.S. Comwell Robert W. Esmond RODERT W. ESMOND Michele A. Cimbala Michael B. Ray Robert E. Sokohl Eric K. Steffe Michael Q. Lee John M. Covert Linda E. Alcorn Robert C. Millonig Lawrence B. Bugaisky Donald J. Featherston Michael V. Messinger Judith U. Kim Timothy J. Shea, Jr. Patrick E. Garrett Heidi L. Kraus Edward W. Yee Albert L. Ferro* Donald R. Banow Peter A. Jackman Molly A. McCall Teresa U. Medler Jeffrey S. Weaver Kendrick P. Patterson Vincent L. Capuano Albert J. Fasulo II* Eldora Ellison Floyd Thomas C. Fiala

Kimberly N. Reddick Theodore A. Wood Elizabeth J. Haanes Bruce E. Chalker Joseph S. Ostroff Frank R. Cottingham Christine M. Lhulier Christine M. Lhülier Rae Lynn Prengaman Jane Shershenovich* Lawrence J. Carroll* George S. Bardmesser Daniel A. Klein* Rodney G. Maze Jason D. Eisenberg Michael A. Specht* Andrea J. Kamage Tracy L. Müller* Tracy L. Muller Jon E. Wright*

LuAnne M. Yuricek

Registered Patent Agents • Karen R. Markowicz Nancy J. Leith Ann E. Summerfield Helene C. Carlson Gaby L. Longsworth Matthew J. Dowd Aaron L. Schwartz Angelique G. Uy Mary B. Tung Katrina Y. Pei Bran I. Skelton Bryan L. Skelton Robert A. Schwartzmar John J. Figueroa Timothy A. Doyle Jennifer R. Mahalingappa

Of Counsel Kenneth C. Bass III

*Admitted only in Maryland * Admitted only in Virginia •Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

December 2, 2003

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER: (202) 772-8582 **INTERNET ADDRESS:** PJACKMAN@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents Art Unit 1644 PO Box 1450

Re:

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Appl. No. 09/350,401; Filed: July 8, 1999

Inducing Cellular Immune Responses To Hepatitis B Virus Using

Peptide and Nucleic Acid Compositions

Inventors:

SETTE et al.

Our Ref:

2060.0060008/PAJ/M-M

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Reply To Restriction Requirement;
- Petition For Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1); 2.
- 3. Credit Card Payment Form; and
- 4. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Steme, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox PLLC. : 1100 New York Avenue, NW : Washington, DC 20005 : 202.371.2600 f 202.371.2540 : www.skgf.com

Commissioner for Patents December 2, 2003 Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Peter A. Jackman

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 45,986

Enclosures

::ODMA\MHODMA\SKGF_DC1;204859;1 SKGF Rev. 2/15/02 dcw; 4/18/03 svb

Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox PLLLC. : 1100 New York Avenue, NW : Washington, DC 20005 : 202.371.2600 f 202.371.2540 : www.skgf.com